

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, YE

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM: NOMINATION OF YAHYA
IL-ARASHI

1. HEREBY NOMINATE YAHYA IL-ARASHI FOR FY 77 INTERNATIONAL
VISITOR GRANT.

2. FOLLOWING ARE REQUISITE DETAILS RE NOMINEE AND PURPOSES
OF PROGRAM:

A) NAME: YAHYA HUSSEIN IL-ARASHI

B) SIGNIFICANT POSITIONS: HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR; HEAD
TAXATION DEPARTMENT; DIRECTOR, CENTRAL ORGANIZATION FOR
AUDITING AND CONTROL; MINISTR INFORMATION AND CULTURE.

C) EDUCATION: SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SANA, SCIENCE
SCHOOL IN ZABEED, SPECIAL COURSES IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND
LABOR AFFAIRS IN EGYPT AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

D) PERSONAL DATA: BORN IN SANA IN 1947; FAMILY FROM
KHOWLAN IN NORTHERN YEMEN.

E) TRAVEL ABOARD: FRG, DGR, ITALY, GREECE, CZECHO-
SLOVAKIA, ARAB COUNTRIES AND ETHIOPIA.

F) NO PREVIOUS USG GRANT.

G) ESCORT-INTERPRETOR REQUIRED. ALMOST NO ENGLISH.

H) ELIGIBLE FOR VISA.

E) REASON FOR NOMINATION: TO CONTINUE POST'S EFFORTS
TO ORIENT THIS GOVERNMENT TO A WESTWARD-LOOKING POSTURE;
TO EXPOSE THIS LEADING YARG LEFTIST TO US INSTITUTIONS
AND SOCIETY.

J) POST OBJECTIVES OF US VISIT: YAHYA IL-ARASHI IS
KNOWN AS LEADING LEFTIST THIS GOVERNMENT BUT LIKE
OTHER LEADING YEMENIS IS CURIOUS ABOUT MANY US PHENOMENA.

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AS PART OF HIS ORIENTATION TO US GOVERNMENT, PROPOSE HE

DISCUSS WITH SOMEONE HIGH IN USIA TRANSITION POWER FROM
FORT TO CARTER ADMINISTRATION. THIS DISCUSSION COULD
BE SEGMENT HIS TOUR USIA WASHINGTON FACILITIES.

AS MINISTER INFO HE SHOULD TOUR MAJOR TV AND RADIO
NETWORK AND WITNESS NEWS SHOW AND LEARN HOW SUCH PROGRAM
PUT TOGETHER. HE IS ALSO INTERESTED AMERICAN THEATER AS
AN EXPRESSION OF SOCIAL CRITICISM AS WELL AS CRITICISM
OF GOVERNMENT.

MINISTRY INFORMATION HERE PRODUCES YEMEN'S NEWSPAPERS.
HE SHOULD TOUR MODERN PRESS AND SEE HOW MEDIUM-SIZED
PAPER IS PUT TOGETHER, WHO DECIDES EDITORIAL POLICY, WHO
OWNS NEWSPAPERS, WHAT IS NEWS, ETC.

THE MINISTER HAS WORKED IN YARG'S MINISTRY LABOR,
SOCIAL AND YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SHOULD VISIT A LABOR UNION.

ARASHI IS FASCINATED WITH US GOVERNMENT AND SHOULD
MEET A US SENATOR OR CONGRESSMAN. HE WOULD APPRECIATE
A DISCUSSION OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO THEIR CONSTITU-
TUENCY. HE IS INTERESTED IN INTERPLAY FEDERAL, STATE
AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS. HE DOES NOT BELIEVE US LAND
OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND HAS ASKED QUESTIONS
ABOUT RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN US. SOME EXPOSURE TO
AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACT AND AMERICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM
WOULD ENLIGHTEN HIM.

ARASHI WAS PARTICIPANT YARG PANEL DURING AIDSAT
DEMONSTRATION. HE SHOULD DISCUSS FOLLOW-UP POSSIBILI-
TIES WITH USAID RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS.

COMMENT: YAHYA IL-ARASHI ALTHOUGH NOT A COLLEGE
GRADUATE IS ASTUTE, DISCERNING GOVERNMENT MINISTER.
REALIZE WHAT HE CAN ABSORB IN 30-DAY TRIP IS LIMITED
BUT EMBASSY HOPES THAT HE WILL SEE IN US THINGS WHICH
HE FEELS YEMEN COULD ADOPT AS MODELS--ESPECIALLY THINGS
IN MEDIA FILED.

K) AVAILABILITY DATES FOR THE US PROGRAM: JULY
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